

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR HULL ATTACHMENT
FOR SUBMERSIBLE VEHICLES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Methods and apparatus for hull attachment for submersible vehicles are disclosed. In one embodiment, a submersible apparatus includes a hull having an elongated channel, a sliding member moveably disposed in the channel, and a mounting assembly attached to the sliding member. The mounting assembly includes an engagement member selectively engageable between a first position wherein the mounting assembly is moveable along the channel, and a second position wherein the mounting assembly is secured in a fixed position along the channel. The apparatus advantageously permits a wide variety of equipment or devices (e.g. tow point assemblies, wing assemblies, tail assemblies, propulsion units, illumination devices, imaging devices, instrumentation, sensors, etc.) to be adjustably attached to the hull, and provides improved adjustability, maintainability, integrity, reliability, and overall improved mission performance.